



PERGAMON

International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer 45 (2002) 2001–2002

International Journal of
**HEAT and MASS
TRANSFER**

www.elsevier.com/locate/ijhmt

Professor Dr.-Ing.e.h. Ulrich Grigull on his 90th birthday



Ulrich Grigull, Professor emeritus of the Technische Universitaet Muenchen is one of the founding editors of this journal.

He celebrates his birthday on 12 March. On seeing and talking to him, one would never believe he his 90 years. Definitely his wide range of interests and activities keeps him young.

History has always occupied his interest: when he came to Munich in 1961 as the successor of Ernst Schmidt, he was so familiar with Bavarian history that many a native born Bavarian among his assistants had difficulties keeping pace with him.

When he retired (in 1980) – then as President of the Technische Universitaet – he was able to devote more of his time to historical facts and here especially to the lives

and accomplishments of men who formed our knowledge with their observations and inventions.

As a member of the “Bavarian Academy of Sciences” (since 1975), he was entrusted with the chairmanship of the “Kepler Commission”. This is a special group of the Mathematical–Natural Science Section of the Academy. Its intention is the issue of a new complete edition of Johannes Kepler’s works in 21 volumes and an extra register volume.

A tremendous proposition; it includes all papers published during Kepler’s lifetime and shortly after (volume 1–12), all known letters from and to Kepler (volume 13–18) and finally manuscripts from the still not printed scientific heritage of Kepler (volume 19–21). So far 20 volumes were finished, under Grigull’s chair-

membership three volumes were edited, only volume 21 and 22 are to be prepared.

For a professor of Thermodynamics and Heat Transfer it seems just natural that he combines his sciences with his historic interests: Grigull published a number of papers on Isaac Newton e.g. “Newton’s temperature scale and the law of cooling” or on Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit e.g. “Fahrenheit, a pioneer of exact Thermometry”.

Ulrich Grigull can look back on almost 70 years of work in heat Transfer. His initiative, both nationally and internationally, made him one of the founders of Heat Transfer as an original and separate discipline in education and research.

“The science of Heat and Mass Transfer is of great importance in many technical fields . . .” this he wrote in the foreword to the first issue of the *Journal Waerme- und Stoffuebertragung*”, which he founded together with E.Eckert and P. Grassmann (in 1968). And he continued: “. . . This might have been the reason that problems in Heat and Mass Transfer are now studied in most civilized countries highly intensively and with considerable expense”. He strongly advocated an *International Heat Transfer*. This became manifested in an “International Heat Transfer Conference” every four years and an “International Assembly for Heat Transfer Conferences”. This assembly can be joined by any nation able and willing to run a Heat Transfer Conference. The 12th of these Conferences will be held this year in Grenoble, France.

Ulrich Grigull’s scientific accomplishments are documented in more than 120 papers and 40 books and book contributions. These give proof of him as an outstanding theorist and experimentalist.

As a teacher he led generations of students to an understanding of thermodynamics and heat and mass transfer.

Grigull’s famous book “Grundgesetze der Waerme- und Stoffuebertragung” (The Basic Laws of Heat and Mass Transfer) appeared in 1955. It was an extensively revised version of a book by Groeber and Erk which had first appeared in 1921. Grigull’s book was the only one in Heat and Mass Transfer written in German in those

days. It experienced a number of editions and translations into Russian, English, Spanish and Japanese. But with other books written in German and with many new results being available, Grigull felt that a completely new treatment of the field was overdue. He decided to have his book edited in a number of monographs on the various subjects and written by young authors. In the years from 1988 until 1993 nine volumes appeared on the subjects of conduction, convection, condensation and boiling, mass transfer, optical measuring techniques, radiation (three volumes) and thermal properties.

Quite often he experienced the responsibilities of a President: he was President of two International Heat Transfer Conferences of the International Assembly for Heat Transfer Conferences, of the International Center for Heat and Mass Transfer, of the International Association for the Properties of Water and Steam, and he was elected Rektor and President of the Technische Universitaet Muenchen. This office he held for eight years until his retirement.

He was associated with our journal from the very beginning as a member of the board of editors, responsible for papers from German speaking countries and countries close to Germany; then he became Co-chairman of our Honorary Editorial Board.

Many honors and awards have been bestowed on Ulrich Grigull. To name just a few: he is an honoary Doctor of the University of Stuttgart, he was presented with the MAX JAKOB Memorial Award; and he was honored by the State of Bavaria with the “Order of Maximilian” the highest award for scientific merits.

The colleagues and friends, the editors of this journal, former students and co-workers and the world-wide community of Heat Transfer submit their best wishes to Professor Dr.-Ing.e.h. Ulrich Grigull.

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